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The Lady's Almanac for 1873, being the twentieth volume of the popular work, will soon be issued by George A. Coolidge from the office of Old and New, Boston. The little work contains, be sides the usual almanac matter, good selections of poetry, blanks for memoranda for each day in the year, and space for a visit record.

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Mr. Froude, at the beginning of his third lecture in Boston, adverting to the critics who charge him with bad faith in the treatment of historical documents, made the following challenge: "Let my accusers select any number of pages from any of my historical works, one, two, three, or four hundred pages, as they may please, and submit them to the keeper of the records in England, with whom all historical documents are deposited. Let the keeper of the records then appoint a commission to examine and compare my works with these documents, and in case their charges can be made good, I forever after to hold my peace, and accept the dishonored position to which they would now consign me. If they do not make good their charges, they to make me a public apology, retracting what they have said against me, the expenses of this commission to be borne by me. As a writer who has done his best to tell the truth, I think it simply justice that this challenge should settle the question of the accuracy of my writings."

New religious works come thick and fast in England. Mr. F. R. Statham, under the title of "From Old to New," will give a sketch of the present religious position; and a new poem, called "A Creed of To-Morrow," may be of like ilk.

A POSTHUMOUS work, by the late Dean Alford, consisting of a series of Advent sermons, and entitled "Sons of God; the Known and the Unknown," will shortly be published in England.

ITALY has recently lost two distinguished authors: Signor Paolo Emiliani Giudici, who died in England, where he was well known. His chief works were a "History of the Italian Theatre," the "History of the Italian Municipalities," and the History of Italian Literature." The other, Signor Felice Finzi, died at Florence, at the early age of twenty-five, having gained a reputation by his linguistic studies. With Prof. Mantegazza, he founded the Archivio di Etmologia e di Antropologia, and was one of the promoters of the Società Orientale of Italy.

M. DE LAVELEYE has published in France a carefully written work on "L'Instruction du Peuple," in two parts. The first part is a treatise on primary instruction; the second is an analysis and summary of the legislation on and position of education in the different countries of the world.

DR. C. M. INGLEBY has in press, says the Athenoum, a volume entitled "Shakespear's Prayse sung by the Poets of a Centurie," being a complete Catena of early notices of Shakespeare and his works, with a photographic frontispiece reproducing the Hunt portrait.

THAT interesting field for literature, the law, is cultivated by two new English books: "Twelve True Tales of the Law," by Copia Fandi, S. C. L., Barrister-at-Law; "Briefs and Papers: being Sketches of the Bar and the Press," by Two Idle Apprentices.

The following four-page List, which includes all the Holiday Books of the Season, is a reprint of the Monthly Book Circular for December, of which up to date, over 40,000 copies have been ordered.

Additional orders will be received and filled in their turn until December 10. For terms, see page 615.

CHRISTMAS

BOOK CIRCULAR.

DECEMBER, 1872.

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The Weekly Trade Circular.

NOVEMBER 28, 1872.

The Holiday Books.

CHRISTMAS is coming—has come, very nearly and again we are all busy in preparations for the advent of his Royal Highness Santa Claus. He is an excellent bibliomaniac, is Santa Claus, and it is a matter of course that publishers and booksellers should provide lavishly for his literary and art tastes, and that the public, as prime minister of his Highness, should kindly reciprocate by opening purse-strings wide. The new Christmas books are this year almost all foreign productions; there are scarcely more than half a dozen fine illustrated books of this season that are American in design or manufacture. Nor is the supply of new works quite as large as usual, though there is yet a sufficiency for the most lavish buyers. Several leading houses make no special advances for the holiday market, contenting themselves, as do the Harpers, for instance, with calling attention to the varied supply of useful and interesting books already in their catalogue.

The Appletons produce as their home-made holiday book a third Bryant volume, his poem of "The Little People of the Snow." It is a charming poem for illustration, and its forty pages, interleaved, are crowded with varied designs by Mr. Alfred Fredericks, engraved by one of the best artists on wood, A. Bosset. These illustrations are in tint, and the use of the gray color chosen has allowed the production of some very remarkable effects. The volume is a square octavo, a bit smaller than the two previous Bryant books, "The Song of the Sower" and "The Story of the Fountain," which also will still prove attractive, and, like those, in appropriate full-gilt binding. Wey's "Rome," which we have noticed fully elsewhere, in a royal quarto volume, with 345 engravings, \$25.00, is one of the chief books, if not the chief, imported in editions this year. Another work which they have imported is the thin folio containing Keats' "Endymion," \$10.00, that masterpiece of imaginative poetry. This contains six fine plates in full-line engraving, executed after designs by an English artist, E. J. Poynter, R. A., spoken of in that country as "our most learnedly classical painter." Many fine juveniles imported in editions for this holiday season, as well as a great array of attractive books for this and all times, are to be found on their list.

Scribner, Welford & Armstrong include among their importations a number of very elegant English holiday books, in editions, to which they specially invite attention. The "Picture Gallery of British Art" and "Picture Gallery of Sacred Art" are quartos in full-gilt cloth, pp. 76, each of

which has twenty-five permanent photographs, after great pictures by the masters. These will be very attractive to cultured buyers. Dr. Lübke's "History of Sculpture," in two royal octavo volumes, cloth gilt, \$18.00, retail, will commend itself in the same direction, with its many woodcut illustrations. This firm also imports Keats' "Endymion," one of the special present-books of the season, noticed above, at \$10.00. "Reynard the Fox," that curious old German satire, in the prose translation of Roscoe, with nearly a hundred illustrations on wood, many of them full-page, by A. J. Elwes, square octavo, pp. 136, \$3.00, is in very brilliant gilt extra cloth binding, which will catch the eye of the tasteful. "Historical Reproductions by Paul Delaroche" contains autotypes of twelve of that great artist's historical paintings, with interesting text, cloth gilt, pp. 72, \$3.00: this is both artistic and cheap. "Children in Italian and English Design" is still another of the photographic books, with plates after the child-pictures of such artists as Correggio, Blake, and Flaxman, octavo, cloth, extra gilt, \$6.00. Another of Amedée Guillemin's popular books, "The Forces of Nature," royal octavo, with eleven colored plates and 450 wood-cuts, will delight lovers of Nature; and Jules Verne's "Meridiana," romance and adventures in Africa, in fine full-gilt binding, is for both old and young.

The home house, Scribner, Armstrong & Co., offer as their especial Christmas volume, "Songs of Nature," the fourth and last of the beautiful reissue of "Folk Songs," cloth, \$5.00, with charming illustrations by Moran, Miss Hallock, and other artist, and fac-similes of MS. Mr. Stockton's "Roundabout Rambles in Lands of Fact and Fancy," \$2.50, is another attraction for Santa Claus, crowded with pictures and brief sketches for the little folks. "Garnered Sheaves," the red-line edition of Dr. Holland's complete poetical works, with new portrait and full-page illustrations, small quarto, will please Timothy Titcomb's thousands of admirers.

George Routledge & Son publish this year an exceptional number of fine art books. among these is "The British School of Sculpture," a superb folio, pp. 138, \$10.00 retail, in rich binding, embracing twenty steel engravings in pure line from the finest works of deceased English sculptors, and fifty wood-cuts, with an introductory essay and sketches of the artists by Wm. B. Scott. The same writer supplies the text for "Gems of Modern German Art," which, in a quarto of pp. 108, \$10.00, has sixteen permanent cartoon photographs from representative works. The binding of this is elaborately beautiful in full-gilt and black stamping. Two match-volumes contain "Pictures by Leslie" and "Pictures by Maclise," two of the greatest names in English art. They are simply elegant folios, on the heaviest and finest 56 pp. text, the second with eleven, 58 pp., reproduced from the finest paintings of these masters by several of the foremost English engravers, \$7.50 each. Either of these four would be most acceptable to people of fine art taste, and it will be found difficult to judge between them. A less expensive but tasteful volume is "Country Life, illustrated by poetry and pictures," which has poems selected from the best poets, and superior wood engravings, square octavo, pp. 147, \$2.50. That exquisite German tale of Auerbach's, "Little Barefoot," forms the text of an attractive quarto, pp. 195, \$4.00, illustrated almost on every other page with quaint, delightful German wood engravings. That outrageously funny writer of nonsense, W. S. Gilbert, has just published still 'More Bab Ballads," square 12mo, pp. 224, \$3,00, which, with their absurd pictures, are admirable material for a Christmas roar. "The Henny-Penny Picture-Book" is one of their large quartos, with twentyfour plates in oil colors, for the little folks, \$2.50, which, though much too big to put in a stocking, will be not less welcome to Santa Claus. Pets" is another large colored picture-book whose title explains itself, only \$1.50; still another, square octavo, is "The Colored Album for Children," very varied in character, at \$1.75. For boys especially is that thick prolific quarto, pp. 700, \$3.0', "Every Boy's Annual," which contains all the good things in prose, poetry, and pictures which have appeared during the year in their juvenile magazine. "My Pet's Album" square octavo, pp. 271, \$2.00, has pictures and simple stories about them on opposite pages. Playfellow," containing four of Harriet Martineau's tales, \$2.50, and "The Adventures of Robinson Playfellow, a Young French Mariner," \$1.75.

T. Nelson & Sons have two new and exquisite books from the Michelets. "Nature; or, the Poetry of Earth and Sea," \$7.50, is by Mme. Michelet, and is full of rhapsodic delight in natural scenery and the emotions which it calls forth. Its chief feature is the two hundred designs on wood by Giacomelli, a French artist of exquisite skill, whose cuts are very varied and charming and most of them in the highest style of the art. "The Mountain," \$6.00, is by M. Michelet himself, and continues the series of those elegant and popular books, "The Bird," "The Insect," and "The Sea," all of which will continue to be favorites this season. It has superb illustrations, fifty-four in number, by Percival Shelton, the English artist. Both these are in very rich, full-gilt cloth bindings, at the prices named.

Macmillan & Co. offer for presents, as well as books, a set of cabinet pictures, reproduced in chromos, cabinet size, on sunk mounts ready for framing as water colors. These are from works of Turner and others of the best English painters, and are very beautiful, varying in size from 5 1-2 by 1-2 to 14 1-2 by 21 inches, and in price from \$6.00

to \$12.00. They have some fresh juveniles which are very clever, as Knatchbull-Hugessen's funny fairy "Tales at Tea Time;" "Prince Perrypets," a pretty, thin quarto with grotesque illustrations by Wiegand; "Conrad the Squirrel," a nice bit of animal narrative; and "Agnes Hopetown's Schools and Holidays."

Hurd & Houghton, in "Songs from the Old Dramatists," offer one of the most thoroughly tasteful volumes of the year. These are collected by Mrs. A. S. Richardson, and for them La Farge has made several of his suggestive, mystic designs, and vignettes have been drawn by S. L. Smith. The volume is a small quarto, in extra gilt, very neat, at \$3.00. Their "Forest Scenes," illustrated by Hows, \$6.00, is one of the standards.

G. P. Putnam & Sons issue a new edition, at a reduced price, of their illustrated Hood, in which the designs are very varied in character, and import the superbillustrated edition of D'Aubigné's "History of the Reformation," folio, \$10.00; the English edition of Reclus' "The Earth," two vols., \$7.00, and other fine works. Their "Gallery of Landscape Painters" (American), twenty-four engravings on steel, \$18.00, is also worthy of fresh attention.

Pott, Young & Co. have a new volume uniform with the "Mighty Works of the Lord Jesus Christ," namely, "Children of the Bible," which contains, in square octavo, twelve photographic reproductions of paintings by the old masters, on child-subjects, from the Scriptures.

Clark & Maynard call attention to the red-line editions of Willis' Poems, complete, and Bulwer-Lytton's translation of Schiller's Poems and Ballads, each with numerous engravings and portrait on steel, \$4.00.

James Miller presents a new red-line illustrated edition of Tom Hood's Poetical Works, small quarto, \$4.50, with illustrations from Doré, Sol Eytinge, Jr., and other artists; and a number of standard illustrated volumes, as Griswold's "Poets and Poetry of America," complete, Keats' Poetical Works, and Mrs. Browning's "Lady Geraldine."

The American News Co. import a superb edition of Moore's "Lalla Rookh," quarto, full-gilt, \$10, with sixty-nine illustrations by Tenniel and five ornamental pages in Turkish design.

Nelson & Phillipps (Methodist Book Concern) call attention of the holiday trade to Butler's "The Land of the Veda," a fully illustrated description of India, 8vo.; and De Puy's "Threescore Years and Beyond," a book of consolation for the aged, 8vo, with portraits of aged representative men.

From James R. Osgood & Co., Boston, comes a goodly list of holiday publications. "Treasure Trove," a humorous ballad of chivalric times, with illustrations by Eytinge, engraved by Anthony, is a pretty, taking book, in small 4to. Warner's clever "Back-Log Studies," small 4to, and illustrated by Hoppin's expert graver, is another attrac-

tion. Lowell's story of "The Courtin" is illustrated in silhouette by Winslow Homer, 'arge thin 8vo, and forms a capital subject for that style of work. "Frithiof's Saga" is also illustrated for a holiday book, large 4to, \$7. Trowbridge's "Coupon Bonds and other Stories," and Miss Proctor's "Russian Journey," are also furnished with illustrations for this holiday season. The two art books, Walter Smith's "Art Education," and Eastlake's "Hints on Household Taste, \$5 each, are fine gifts for any household, and especially for art-lovers. Flagg's "Woods and Byways of New England," with its score of heliotype illustrations from Nature, thick 8vo, \$5, is also noteworthy. The new translation of the Æneid and other volumes of the Imperial translations, \$5 each, are glorious presents for a scholar. Several books issued late last season, as Hennessey's Booth, and Hoppin's Sketches, ought to go almost as fast as new books this. There is also an abundance of fine juveniles on their list.

Roberts Brothers present several fresh and fine volumes for holiday buyers. Chief of these is the handsome oblong folio containing Moritz Retzsch's "Outlines to Bürger's Ballads," \$5, a companion to two previous works of the same artist. The plates were printed in Germany, from the original plates by Retzsch, and the book is bound in London. The text, however, is translated by a Boston lady, saving "Lenore," which is given in Charles T. Brooks' version. "From the Nile to the Jordan," following the Israelitish wanderings, in fourteen autotype illustrations, after David Roberts, R.A. -reduced from the reprint large volume-small 4to, \$6, is a fine work, of appropriateness as a religious gift. The volume on "Thorvaldsen, his Life and Works," from the French of Eug. Plon, by Miss Luyster, with thirty-five illustrations from his works printed in Paris on India paper and inserted, 12mo, \$2.50, will be a present very acceptable to art-lovers. There is a second series of Carl Werner's "Nile Sketches," those magnificent chromo-lithographs, 18 x 25, at \$28. A new issue of the finely illustrated edition of Jean Ingelow's Poems, with new photographic portrait, and at a reduced price, \$7.50, is very attractive; and the red-line edition of Mistral's "Mirèio," in fine bindings, is also to be noted. Mr. Hale, by the way, has a new book of Christmas stories, "Christmas Eve and Christmas Day," and several new juveniles are in the

Lee & Shepard send out this season, as a beautiful volume for Santa Claus' attention, the Poetical Works of Goldsmith, illustrated by members of the Etching Club, square 16mo, \$3.50; and, as always, stacks of juveniles, sufficient to fill almost a million big stockings, from their many popular writers for the young—Oliver Optic, Kellogg, De Mille, Sophie May, and the like.

J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia, are the

American publishers of that splendid art-work, Lübke's "History of Sculpture," than which scarce anything is better worth buying. They, too, have new juveniles for the season.

Porter & Coates, Philadelphia, have an illustrated edition of Burns' "Cotter's Saturday Night," the illustrations by Campbell, engraved by Filmer, small 4to, \$4.00.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM BOSTON.

NOVEMBER, 1872.

BOOKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

ALTHOUGH our holiday prospects have been sadly interfered with by the Great Fire, the notes of preparation are sounding, there is activity in quadruple measure in what is left of our paperwarehouses, printing houses and binderies, and publishers are busy in making the best of the adverse circumstances. It may be that our city circumstances will make an active holiday trade for books. The fire swept away millions of dollars belonging to our rich men, to families whose holiday gifts have usually been of plate, diamonds, bronzes, and the elegant and costly articles of ornament and decoration. But these things will in the majority of cases, perhaps, be passed by this season, and presents of moderate cost will take their place; and for small sums of money what will give so satisfactory a return as books? A handsome and valuable volume can be obtained for a few dollars and is always appropriate as a gift, and as for the little folks, they will be booked to reple-This is the way it seems to many, and our hopeful booksellers are making due preparation. Another point should be mentioned. Experience has taught that costly show-books—mere centre-table ornaments—are like family bibles, seldom examined and never read. A few of these will always be sold, but they are bulky, ponderous, and after a little time, decidedly in the way. Taste and common sense tend toward less expensive and really more attractive works, and the sale of these annually increases. The great buying, present-giving public cannot afford the folios and the quartos, but demand books pleasing in their externals and valuable in their internals, reasonable in price and appropriate to give as satisfactory to receive. sands can and will spend from five to ten dollars for a volume, or for a set of books, who cannot afford twice or three times that amount, and it is to meet this class of trade that our publishers de-

Take, for instance, the holiday books of Roberts "Moritz Retzsch's Outlines to Bür-Brothers. ger's Ballads, comprising the Ballads of Lenora, The Lay of the Brave Man, and The Pastor's Daughter of Taubenhain, oblong folio, cloth, black and gilt lettered, price \$5.00; morocco antique and extra, price \$9.00." This is a tiful volume, and cannot fail to be popular. Outlines were printed in German from original plates made by Retszch; the letter-press was done in Cambridge (Mass.) and the binding in England ! A sort of international volume. It may not inap-propriately be called a companion volume to "Outlines of Shakespeare," and the "Lay of the Bell," by the same artist, and published by Roberts Brothers. As a genuine work of art, eminently pleasing to the most critical taste and judgment, this book of ballads will take a high rank, and, as before intimated, its moderate cost brings it within the reach of people of small means. In an artistic or æsthetic point of view compare this book with what the same amount of money would bring in jewelry or mantel ornament! Next we have, by the same house, "From the Nile to the Jordan. Footsteps of the Israelites from Egypt to Sinai, with fourteen autotype illustrations, after David Roberts, R.A., small quarto, superbly bound in cloth, gilt and black lettered, and illuminated, price \$6.00." This is a gem in paper, print, text, illustration and binding, and will be very acceptable to that large class of buyers and readers who desire books that are beautiful in execution, but also books whose contents have a somewhat serious, semi-religious character. As its title indicates, this volume has a biblical atmosphere, and as a brief record of certain portions of sacred history, illustrated by pen and picture, is worthy of high commendation. The autotypes are beautiful; there is a delicacy, a mellowness, a hazy, dreamy character that is bewitching; the subjects are well selected, and the explanatory text simple, devout, and scholarly. Another artistic book in press by Roberts Brothers is, "Thorvaldsen, his Life and Works, translated from the French of Eugene Plon by Miss Luyster, with thirty-seven highly finished representative illustrations, printed in Paris from the original plates, on India proof paper, 12mo, cloth, bevelled boards, imitation Roxburghe, price \$2.50." I have turned the proofs of this delightful volume with genuine pleasure. ject is fresh to the American reading public, is instructive, and elevating in an artistic direction. The thirty or forty delicate but forcible and truthful illustrations give the reader a correct idea of the great sculptor's works, and introduce him to some of the finest triumphs of art of which the Old World can boast. In this connection I may mention a new illustrated edition of Jean Ingelow's Poems (quarto, cloth, \$7.50; morocco \$12.00), with a new likeness of the author from a recent sitting to Elliot and Fry of London. It is needless to "gild refined gold" by praising this book; my time can be better employed! A more pretentious and expensive book is "Nile Sketches," by Carl Werner, (second series), with chromo-lithographs 18x25, mounted suitable for framing; art lovers with plethoric pocket-books will willingly pay twenty-eight dollars for this volume. "Mirèio," Mistral's beautiful poem, translated by Harriet W. Preston, is now put up in elegant binding for the holiday trade, and is a very excellent and tasteful giftbook.

Although Lee & Shepard do not profess to enter largely into the line of technical "holiday they have many volumes in readiness which are "holiday" as well as for all time, In fact, they have the "faculty" of giving a holiday cast to all their books, and as for holiday trade, it is with them a chronic disease, from which it is very doubtful if they ever recover. All times are pretty much the same to them; their hopper is always full, and the grinding of literary grist never Mr. George M. Baker "tends the mill," and if he should write a work entitled "What I know about Book-making," it would be too large for earthly use. I will note a few titles. have a beautiful edition of "Goldsmith's Poetical Works," portrait and steel plates, and fully and capitally illustrated by the London Etching Club. The style is a small quarto, handsome cover, gilt edges, tinted paper, etc. It is a good companion volume to their edition of Burns' poems, published last year, and for which Macdonald's lecture has made a fresh and large sale. "Wishing-Cap Papers," selections by J. E. Babson, from unpublish-

ed papers by Leigh Hunt, will be ready in season for the trade and will be a very attractive volume. The contents are unique, and such as the student and literary man will greatly enjoy. It is a volume of the ordinary 12mo size. Underwood's "Handbook of English Literature," two volumes (Vol. I. British Authors; Vol. II. American Authors), is put up in elegant and rich bindings, and is one of the most intrinsically valuable works that will be on sale this season. It is really a "standard" work, and offers to the purchaser more for his money than anything I know of in the line of pure reading. "Over the Ocean," a capital book of European travel by Curtis Guild, editor of the "Commercial Bulletin," is now put up in rich bindings, and is a very attractive work in all respects. Books of travel have become a sort of literary nuisance, but Mr. Guild knew what he wanted to see, knew how to see it, knew how to tell about it, all of which perhaps comes more or less from the fact that he is an editor and knows the wants and whims of the public better than the student at the library table, the clergyman with his head full of sermons and "plans," or the female tourist who "ohs!" and "ahs!" at everything and everybody, irrespective of propriety. At any rate, "Over the Ocean" is very enjoyable, and, what pleases author and publisher, sells. Speaking of "female tourists," however, let me except Miss Traston. Her "American Girl Abroad" has received the hearty endorsement of the public as one of the sprightliest and best books of travel ever published, and makes one of the "Girlhood Series," a fine holiday set for the young folks; the other volumes are "Sally Williams, the Mountain Girl," by Mrs, Edna D.Cheney, and "Only Girls," by Miss Virginia F. Townsend. Poor Mrs. Partington barely escaped destruction by the fire, but one large edition of her new book was saved, and will serve to allay the public appetite until new plates can be made. Its title, "Partingtonian Patchwork," is fairly indicative of its contents. The old lady (whose masculine name is B. P. Shillaber) tells of "Blifkins the Martyr; or, the Domestic Trials of a Model Husband;" "The Modern Syntax; or, Dr. Spooner's Experience in Search of the Delectable;" "Partington Papers; or, Strippings of the Warm Milk of Human Kindness;" "New and Old Things from an Unpretending Inkstand." The volume will be illustrated, and will be one of the most unexceptionable humorous books yet issued. "Bacon's Essays" and "Whately's Annotations" will be ready in fine bindings, as also a full line of English poets. Woodward & Cates' "Cyclopædia of Dates," although a "standard" rather than a "holiday" book, will be in demand by those who like to purchase and to give useful books, and for such editions in fine bindings have been prepared. In anticipation of the rush for juvenile books, for their store is headquarters in this department of literature, L. & S. have ready Mrs. M. A. Osgood's "Little Canary Series," of four illustrated volumes, packed in a box that surpasses, in the way of unique design. anything of its kind I have ever seen. It is a fac-simile of a bird-cage, and, with a label tied to the ring on the top, is a credit to the designer. Another capital set is Mrs. Samuels' "Dick Travers Abroad," in four illustrated volumes; then we have the two initial volumes of Oliver Optic's "Yacht Club Series": "Little Bobtail" and "The Yacht Club;" four volumes of Elijah Kellogg's "Whispering Pine Series": "The Spark of Genius," "The Sophomores of Radcliffe," "Winning his Spurs," and "The Turning of the Tide;" and then romes the prolife De of the Tide;" and then comes the prolific De Mille with his lively, original, and wholesome

"Young Dodge Club," of which two volumes are now ready: "Among the Brigands" and "The Seven Hills"; and the two concluding volumes of the popular "B. O. W. C." series: "Picked up Adrift" and "The Treasure of the Seas." Of a more solid character is "The Young Folks' History of England," by Isa Craig Knox, a well-written book, which tells its historical tale in a way to entertain and instruct the young. And so I might go on adding to this holiday list of juveniles, but will refrain; too much at a time is not

wise either in dinners or books.

As for J. R. Osgood & Co., they always have good things for the public. Take their whoie catalogue, and it is overcrowded with books that might well be called "holiday," both in prose and poetry, but for new issues I find these among others: "Woods and Byways of New England," by Wilson Flagg. This is a stout octavo with twenty-four fall-page illustrations; the text describes the forest trees of New England, their localities, characteristics, uses and resources, and resources for ornament, and with these descriptions are intespersed delightful essays on kindred topics. the lovers of Nature this book will be peculiarly acceptable. Walter Smith's "Art Education, Scholastic and Industrial," may well take its rank among the holiday as well as standard books. Smith is Director of Art Education for the State of Massachusetts, and has held high and responsible positions as instructor in England. This book is a large octavo, well illustrated by plain and colored plates, and has an intensely practical charac-Akin to this may be mentioned Eastlake's "Household Taste," edited for American use by Charles C. Perkins, known to you as author of "Tuscan Sculptors." This book has hints on furniture, upholstery, and other household matters, has numerous colored and plain illustrations, is in itself a gem of typography, and is a beautiful volume to keep, to read, to give away, and to receive. James Russell Lowell's humorous poem, "The Courtin'," has been illustrated in silhouette by Winslow Homer, and will be issued as a gift-book in a few days. Trowbridge's "Coupon Bonds, and other Stories" will be another illus-Charles D. trated holiday volume. Warner's "Back-Log Studies" has been illustrated by Hoppin, and will appear as a small quarto. A splendid and valuable work is D. H. Lodge's translation of Winckelman's "History of Ancient Art;" Vol. IV., completing the work, has recently been issued, and the whole series is a great addition to our literature in that special department. Of course Longfellow's "Christus," in three volumes, comprising "The Divine Tragedy," "The Golden Legend," and "The New England Tragedies," will be in great demand, as also Whittier's new poem, "The Pennsylvania Pilgrim," Cranch's translation of "The Æneid of Virgil," Bayard Taylor's "Masque of the Gods," and Tennyson's "Gareth and Lynette;" these can be had in fine bindings. Dr. Holmes's "Poet at the Breakfast Table" will be popular, and will lead to a renewed sale of the "Autocrat" and the "Professor." Fields' "Yesterdays with Authors" will have a large sale. It is difficult to select from Osgood's catalogue, where all is so good. Books technically called "holiday" steadily diminish in number, and popular taste seems to demand a better class of reading. Good editions of standard authors are in greater demand with us from year to year, and the old-fashioned "annuals" are forever lost, we hope, in the dim

Our other publishers are not attempting much in the special line of holiday literature resting rather upon their regular publications. Noyes, Holmes

& Co. will have Dr. Burr's able and successful books in fine bindings, "Ecce Coelum," "Pater Mundi," and, by the way, a second volume of "Pater" is in press and will give completeness to the series. A very attractive and instructive work on the "History of the Art of Printing," beautifully illustrated, published by N., H. & Co., is to be highly commended as a choice and inexpensive gift-book for the young. H. A. Young & Co. have just issued a gem of a devotional book entitled "The Art of Always Rejoicing;" it is a translation from Catholic writer, and has been most cordially endorsed in England, and cannot fail to be popular with religious and thoughtful people in this country. I cannot further specify our new books and new editions of old books without making my epistle too long; the "second part of the same tune" will be

performed in my next.

The Great Fire in Boston, November 9, had scarcely gone upon record or the details of the losses approximated, when it was supplemented by the destruction by fire of the extensive printing establishment of Rand, Avery & Co., in Cornhill. This was one of the largest and best-furnished houses in the country, and at the time of its burning was running to its very fullest capacity, for, in addition to their own regular work, always great, and especially at this season, Rand, Avery & Co. had made room for some of their brethren rendered houseless by the fire of the previous week. The loss falls heavily upon this enterprising firm, and will affect trade in various ways. \$100,000 will not cover Rand, Avery & Co.'s loss, and the interruption to the business of several publishers will be very inconvenient and damaging. Lee & Shepard and J. R. Osgood & Co. had large quantities of sheet stock consumed, but I understand they are well insured in sound companies; and this with us now means out-of-town companies, for our local organizations are in the deep waters of financial affliction, and the unfortunate people who had their all insured with them find that even honesty is not a best policy! Ivison, Blakeman & Co., of your city, lost heavily by this last fire. Patrick Donahoe, who lost not less than \$350,000 by the Great Fire, had his *Pilot* newspaper again cast out by the flames, which really seems like "adding insult to injury." Mr. Donahoe declares that he don't want to hear anything about Phœnixes and the like, he don't want to rise from his ashes again-not he !twice in a fortnight is quite enough; all which is true, but still, if he should have a third burning, he would be just as indomitable as ever. The Banner of Light (spiritual paper) was again burned out, all its spirit influences to the contrary notwithstanding. The Congregational Publishing Society lost 70,000 copies of its "Well Spring," and I am constantly hearing of new losers, individuals, and firms who have suffered. In my last letter I said that Lee & Shepard lost twenty sets of stereotype plates by the fire: such was then the rough estimate; it now appears that they have lost nearer forty sets, and among them some of their most rapidly-selling books, as well as of books not yet put into the market. A single item will show what can be done in an emergency. Among the lost plates were six volumes of "Dotty Dimple Books," three volumes of "Prudy Books," and "The Anthem Offering." These ten books will be in market on the 10th of December, printed from new plates and on paper made to order for them. I believe that Harding of Philadelphia makes the plates, and if the book trade knows of anything smarter than this in the line of stereotyping, let it be made manifest. The stock on hand of "Dotty" and "Prudy" will last until the new editions appear. The plates of Shillaber's "Partingtonian

Patchwork" were burned at the first fire, and two thousand copies in sheets at the second fire, but as one edition was saved intact the public can be partially supplied while new plates are being made. It is to be borne in mind that every type foundry in the city is gone. Mudge & Son are the only heavy printers now left us in town, and they are running day and night. The Cambridge presses are crowded, and are now our only resource. Let us pray that they may escape destruction, even although Tyndall doesn't believe in the efficacy of special prayer. He must believe in a special "something or other" concerning our inflammable and inflaming city.

To show how completely our paper houses and stationers were "cleaned out" (coarse but pat phrase), I give the following list of those burned out. It is perhaps as nearly accurate as can be made at this time. Amid the great confusion and changes, it is next to impossible to make complete lists or give approximate amounts of losses.

F. W. Bird & Co. S. W. Wilder. J. B. Warren. Cutter, Tower & Co. George B. Brown & Co. H. J. Hallgreen. R. L. Gay & Co. Bennett, Tilden & Co. Dill & Co. S. D. Warren. G. W. Wheelwright & Sons. D. B. Fletcher. A. K. Brown & Co. Peter C. Jones. Amariah Storrs. Wilder & Co. W. E. Woodman & Co. Carter, Brothers & Co. Tileston&Hollingsworth W. P. Tewksbury Rice, Kendall & Co. H. K. W. Hall. E. H. Sampson. William Russell & Son. Spaulding & Co. G. W. B. Taylor. Luther, Crane & Co. G. W. Botsford & Co. Dillingham & Co. C. B. Botsford & Co. Binney & Co. Moses P. Grant. S. P. Baldwin. S. P. Bryant. William Bellamy. I. W. Hodgdon. I. Buffum. Brewer & Tileston. L. F. Lawrence & Co. a 8 B. H. Thayer & Co., etc., etc.

This fearfully long list probably is not complete, but it will indicate what the fire has done for us in this one line. It will be noticed that our heaviest paper houses are included among the losers. I don't like this kind of news, and will abruptly stop. When you have such a fire in New York, I hope I shall not have occasion to say, "You know how it is yourself." B.

Illustrated Books.

A BOOK without illustrations should be exceedingly plain; or, to speak more exactly, for we never begin to use words without discovering how they catch in our thoughts like pins and make rents, an illustrated book ought to contain so clear an inner light of meaning that illustrations from without would be impertinent, like a candle lighted to show us a lamp already burning. Illustrations in a book should add to the light, and not merely repeat it; to say by lines what has already been distinctly and unequivocally said by words is to stultify the intellect and lower both literature and art. Unless the line can add to and make more manifest the word, it has no excuse for being—at least for being just there.

The law to be observed in books of information is one of economy. If the picture can tell the story more briefly and yet more comprehensively, let it be given and its slight deficiencies supplied by words. An engraving exhibiting a cathedral front will convey an idea of it far more clearly than pages of description; yet it would take a vast series of engravings to give what a few pages might

tell of historic processions that had entered its doors. The appeal made is to the understanding, and whatever quickliest satisfies that is the chosen means. The illustrations are to throw light on the contents of the book. The pictures and the words are on the same plane, to be governed by the same law.

But a more searching inquiry regards the right of existence in the case of what are commonly termed "illustrated book"; that is, books which had an independent and justifiable existence before pictures were made for them, and now come forward with new claims by reason of such pictures. The two books must stand each on its own footing. We are dealing now with a complex object. The pictures may be good in themselves, and the book good in itself, but unless they bear a distinct relation to each other, the result is not good; when one comes into the province of classic work, the more subtle, while true, this relation is, the more perfect the coalescing; the book cannot be an excuse for the pictures, nor the pictures for the book; there is nothing to be excused in art. Harmony is the essential characteristic of anything which deserves to be called an illustrated book, and it must extend to every particular of manufacture be-fore success can be predicated. The signal failures in illustrated books commonly follow from independence of parts; it is forgotten that it is not good text, nor good drawings, nor good engraving, nor good printing, nor good paper, nor good binding, that separately can make the success of an illustrated book; but the combination of all these, patiently sought at the cost of time, thought, la-bor, and enthusiasm. Results thus reached are worth something; a new object has been produced which has as distinct an individuality as the book had which was the basis of all this gardening toil. But they are almost century plants. None yet blossomed in America.—Riverside Bulletin. None has

LITERARY AND TRADE GOSSIP.

THE publication of Mrs. Clement's new "Handbook of Painters, Engravers, and Sculptors'; (Hurd & Houghton) is unavoidably postponed until after the holidays, owing to the illness of the author.

DR. SCHAFF'S new work on "The Revision of the English Version of the New Testament" will be made up of Lightfoot on a "Fresh Revision," new edition, Trench on the "Authorized Version," and Ellicott's "Considerations on the Revision." Dr. Schaff has written an elaborate introduction, and the work will prove a most valuable contribution on one of the chiefly important undertakings of modern scholarship. It will be ready in two or three weeks.

SAMPSON, Low & Co. announce a guinea Christomas volume of a new sort, "My Lady's Cabinet charmingly decorated with lovely drawings and exquisite miniatures." This work will contain seventy-five pictures set in frames, and arranged on twenty-four panels, thus representing the walls of a richly-adorned boudoir. Each page or panel will be interleaved with letterpress sufficient to explain the subjects of the drawings and give the names of the artists.

ANOTHER man is at work revolutionizing mocern astronomy and proving, to his heart's satisfaction, how much wiser were our fathers than we. He is an Englishman, R. J. Morrison, M. A. T., Conemander R. N., and his book, of which a second edition has been issued, is "The New Principia;

or, True System of Astronomy, in which the Earth is proved to be the stationary centre of the Solar System, and the Sun is shown to be only 365,006.5 miles from the Earth."

In the last nine months the value, as declared at the Customs, of printed books exported from England was £628,608, against £506,387 in the corresponding period of the preceding year.

HEPWORTH DIXON has gone to Spain for six weeks in connection with his forthcoming new book. It will be an historical, not topographical work, and will deal with Queen Catherine of Arragon and her rival and successor, Anne Boleyn. The title of the work is said to be "The Two Queens,"

MISS YONGE is preparing for Messrs. Macmillan & Co. "The Life and Letters of Bishop Patteson."

"THE SEARCH FOR A PUBLISHER" is a shilling manual published in London for the benefit of would-be authors.

RUSKIN issues his Oxford lectures during Lent term of this year, on the Relation of Natural Science to Art, under the characteristically uncharacteristic title of "The Eagle's Nest." The Wileys, as usual, republish here.

MONCURE D. CONWAY has just published abroad a book on "Republican Superstitions."

DR. BEALE, F.R.S., improves on Huxley's terms in the title of his new work, "Bioplasm: the Living Matter of Living Beings," an Introduction to Physiology.

"STAR-DEPTHS; or, Other Suns than Ours," will be the title of Procter's new volume.

"THE Six of Spades" is a forthcoming English book on gardening.

CHARLES READE is engaged at present writing a new tale for the Christmas number of the Graphic, and it is rumored the subject is of a nature that will recall the famous Tichborne case.

"Love is Enough; or, the Freeing of Pharamond: a Morality," is the full title of William Morris' new work.

THE Cassell's Christmas annual for the little folks is, this year, "All Pictures," consisting entirely of cuts, "each telling a story of itself."

THE "Galaxy" for December commences a new novel, "The Wetherel Affair," by Col. J. W. De Forest, which opens admirably, and promises to be remarkably fresh and attractive. The same writer traces the growth of "Giant Pope" in an historical article on the Papacy. Justin McCarthy has one of his brilliant sketches of "Some Great English Lawyers;" John Durand writes entertainingly of French customs and characteristics; Junius Henri Browne has more to say of "Historic Lovers," and Gen. Custer of "Life on the Plains." That interesting paper, "Saved from the Mormons," is concluded. The solid article of the number is a valuable contribution to "The History of Emancipation," by ex-Secretary Welles. Mrs. Moulton contributes one of the poems.

THE December "Atlantic" opens with an article which will attract very wide attention, detailing "The Fight of a Man with a Railroad." It is written by Mr. Coleman, who defended the rights of the people against the New Haven R. R. Co. in a famous lawsuit of years. A paper on "Common Ornament," by Charles Akers, is very excellent. "The Poet at the Breakfast Table" and DeMille's serial are concluded. Parton writes at his best in describing the meeting of Jefferson and Hamilton, and from the historian, Parkman, comes a readable chapter on an early Jesuit mission. Col. De For-

est has a clever satire, "An Inspired Lobbyist," and there is a touching life-sketch, "Shaker John," by a Mrs. Raffersperger. There is fine poetry by Paul H. Hayne, Marian Douglas, Celia Thaxter, and Edgar Fawcett.

"SCRIBNER'S" for December includes an article by one of the lions of the day, Froude, who gives some "Stories of the Irish Smugglers." Another lion is discoursed of in a pleasant sketch of "A Tramp with Tyndall." Dr. Holland's serial of "Arthur Bonnicastle," which is receiving universal praise, is continued, and Mrs. Oliphant concludes hers. The illustrated articles are, "New Ways in the Old Dominion," "A Peep at the Bird Shops," and "Mother Goose," besides etchings; with a capital burlesque on the story of Arion, by Thomas Dunn English. Some of the cuts are exceptionally fine. M. B. Conway concludes his scholarly paper on "The Demons of the Shadow." There is a lively story by Miss Hopkins, and the poetry of the number is by Robert Buchanan, Rose Terry, Hiram Rich, R. W. Gilder, and R. R. Bowker.

LIPPINCOTT'S for December has a most profitable article, by S. Weir Mitchell, on "Nurse and Patient;" being a plea for professional nursing, and a protest against the sacrifice of one person's health for that of another. Earl Shinn's art papers are concluded. There are two illustrated articles, "Searching for Quinine in Peru," and "Oriental Sports," by Mrs. F. R. Feudge. Among the short stories, Harriet Prescott Spofford's "Her Story," is notably strong, being a narrative of domestic wrong, and tracing a development of insanity from the brooding of a fine mind over bitter trouble. There are other readable articles, besides poetry and the lively "Monthly Gossip."

"OUR FLAG."-George Henry Preble, U. S. N., lhas presented, through Joel Munsell, publisher, a targe octavo of more than 500 pages, containing she results of his very careful and thorough reearches as to "The Origin and Progress of the Flag of the United States of America." The work The work opens with a general survey of the symbols, standards, banners, and flags of ancient and modern nations; discusses, then, the banners first planted on American shores, the flags displayed in colonial times, and the standards which the Revolution evoked; lastly, the "Stars and Stripes" are considered, the steps of its development traced, and numerous theories presented of its illustrious origin. The remainder of the work carries the flag through the years which followed the Revolution, and records its very notable vicissitudes in the war of the Rebellion. The work is a very interesting one, abounding in anecdote and rich with exhilarating details of the nation's history. It is presented in excellent shape, with numerous colored plates and illustrations.

FATHER LACORDAIRE'S works, in press by Poussielgue frères, Paris, will be completed by the forthcoming ninth volume. On its appearance the price of the complete works will be raised to 50 fr.

DARESTE'S "Histoire de France," which has twice obtained the great Gobert prize, is now complete in eight large volumes. The price will be raised from 8 fr. to 9 fr. per volume.

THE Boston Advertiser has been the theatre of some vigorous letter-writing between Mr. Bret Harte and Mr. James Redpath. The latter, it will be remembered, made a very severe attack upon Mr. Harte's business character before the Boston Lyceum audience on the evening upon which he had engaged to deliver his lecture on "The Argo-

nauts of '49." Mr. Harte answered in a letter, claiming that Mr. Redpath had made arrangements for him in defiance of his instructions, that the fire was otherwise sufficient excuse for postponement, and that Mr. Redpath "rose before an audience which he had permitted to gather to hear a man whom he knew would be absent, charged me with insulting them, depreciating the wares he had asked permission to peddle exclusively-all in the most extraordinary performance, I trust, ever given be-fore a New England lyceum." Mr. Redpath now retorts, appealing to records and the newspapers to show that several of Mr. Harte's positions are anything but well taken. His statements are in detail and seem to bear on their face evidence of truth-Mr. Redpath charges him with having fulness. insulted Boston similarly twice before, and suggests that Mr. Harte should consider business engagements in a more usual light.- Evening Mail.

A CURIOUS volume, by Matthew Howard, M.D., has just been published by Wm. L. Allison, entitled "Life in Death and Death in Life. A Paradox." It is designed to show what we know in distinction from what we believe, and in its illustrations covers a bewildering variety of topics. It is a medico-psychological theologico-rationalistic book-as nearly as one can define it-discussing the relations between life and death, inquiring into spiritism, vampirism, and other mysterious subjects, and applying discovered facts to the development of religious truth. Mr. Howard believes in Christianity, and wishes to see all earth united in one confession of faith-the beginning and end of the Apostles' creed. The book includes also criticisms on the morals and manners of modern society, arguing against free-love, capital punishment, and other evil things in a very forceful way.

"THE AMAZONS," by Joaquin Miller, will be followed by another poem, entitled "Crispus." The opening lines are in memory of John Keats.

A YOUNG Irish candidate for literary honors is about to publish in England a first novel, having the seige of Londonderry for its central point of action.

WEY'S ROME.-Rome, by Francis Wey, containing 345 engravings on wood, designed by the most celebrated artists, and a plan of Rome, with an introduction by W. W. Story. One vol. D. Appleton & Co. Unquestionably this superb volume excels all other work on Rome, as St. Peter's excels all other churches. It is magnificent not only in its print and paper, but in its illustrations and its text. Mr. Wey, though he wrote his book in French originally, is, we believe, an Englishman, and his descriptions of the Eternal City and its people are enlivened by a truly English humor, which, how-ever, never becomes flippant or impertinent, but lends a peculiar raciness to the work. The illustrations of this work are exceedingly attractive and spirited, and in the highest style of art. They are carefully drawn by competent artists, and the scenes and the points of view are well selected. The eminent American artist, W. W. Story, who has resided in Rome for twenty years, says: "In point of number of designs, excellence of execution, and general character, no illustrated book on Rome can compare with this. The range of pictures is very great-from the games of the people, the life of the streets, the priestly possessions, the costumes and ceremonies of the Church, the fountains, churches, palaces and villas of to-day, to the paintings of the early Italian masters, the catacombs of the primitive Christians, the statues of ancient Rome, and the ruins of the city and the Campagna. To those who have visited or are about to visit Rome, as well as to all lovers of art and antiquity, the work may be safely recommended as the most complete as well as the most interesting and beautiful of guide-books.

MISS FANNIE MATTHEWS ("Marguerite F. Aymar") is engaged, we learn from the *Home Journal*, in writing a novel, the scene of which is laid partly in New York city and partly in one of our fashionable watering-places.

THE Library of Congress at Washington has received a complete set of all the documents, opinions, arguments, and other papers connected with the Geneva arbitration. They include even the leading articles of the European press on the Alabama case, and are magnificently bound. Mr. J. C. Bancrost Davis, it is said, has taken great pains with the collection, which is one of the completest gathered, and is from the State Department.

MESSRS. E. & H. T. ANTHONY & Co., N. Y., have among their new chromos the following exceedingly attractive figure-pieces: The Two Cousins, after T. Cremona, size 28x21 1-2, retail price, \$25.00; Dis Von Don't Count, 18x14, \$7.50; Forgiven, 20x16, \$8.00; Meditation, 18x12, \$6.00; Faust and Marguerite, after E. Teschendorff, 34x25, \$12.00; In the Vineyard, after P. Burmeister, 34x25, \$12.00; and two very fine landscapes: Park at Badenburg, after F. Hennings, 25x34, \$12.00: and The King's Lake, after Ferd. Feld-hütter, 25x34, \$12.00. They also have a choice hütter, 25x34, \$12.00. collection of colored photographs, most of them colored by Joseph Wilson; and an endless variety of plain, colored, and illuminated stereoscopic views, both American and foreign. Messrs. Anthony & Co. are also the agents for the exquisite photographs of objects in the British Museum, which-alone repay a visit to their establishment. Their general stock of photographs, portraits of celebrities, albums, frames, etc., has received numerous additions, representing every novelty of the season.

A NEW History of Kentucky, embracing gleanings, reminiscences, antiquities, natural curiosities, statistics, and biographical sketches, by William B. Allen, is in the press of Bradley & Gilbert, Louisville.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

[In stating any change, dealers will please enclose their business card, or give a detailed account of the more prominent features of their business. No charge for insertion.]

THE firm of Turnbull Brothers, importers, publishers, booksellers and stationers, No. 8 North Charles Street, Baltimore, has been dissolved, Mr. J. Lisle Turnbull retiring. The business will be conducted under the same name and at the same place by H. C. Turnbull, Jr., who will settle the business of the late firm.

BOOK AUCTIONS.

Wednesday, December 4, and following days, at 4 o'clock P.M., the remainder of the library of Dr. J. C. Nott, of Mobile, Ala., containing many rare books on ethnology, medicine, and general science.

—Bangs, Merwin & Co., New York.

Wednesday, December 4, and closing Friday, the 6th, at 9 o'clock a.m. each day, parcel sale of books to the trade,—George A. Leavitt & Co., New York.

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XV.

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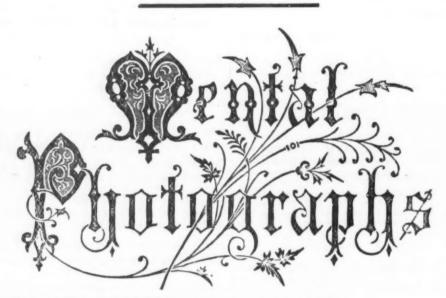
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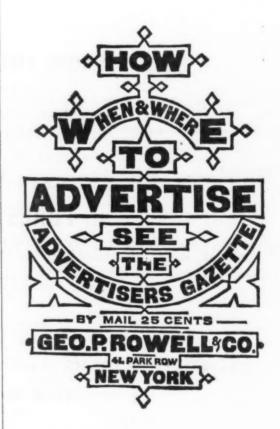
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